

STAR DASH

# It's the business

'I do not pretend to know what many ignorant men are sure of' - Clarence Darrow

## Movers & groovers

PEOPLE laughed when founders of gym investment company **ADLeisure** said they were backing a new cellulite-busting "wobbler" machine, known as the Power Plate. Looking like a cross between bath-room scales and a gym bike, it costs £2,600 at Harrods. But it now emerges that Madonna has bought one. Power Plate maker **Liberation Fitness Systems** is expecting to become profitable this financial year.

REVENGE is a dish best served cold, so **BT's** head of retail Ian Livingston must have enjoyed his. He was furious in August when he saw an ad for **Wanadoo** offering customers £20 upgrades to their broadband connection. The ad blamed BT for the charge. In fact, BT only charges £11 and **Wanadoo** adds the rest. BT complained to the Advertising Standards Authority about this and three other misleading claims in the ad. The ASA upheld all four complaints and gave a slap on the wrist to **Wanadoo**.

A MAJOR row is brewing between Budweiser-maker **Anheuser-Busch** and London-listed South African brewer **SABMiller** over their respective Light/Lite beers. Several US cable networks have pulled Miller ads claiming that despite AB making changes to Bud Light, Miller Lite still has more taste. Furious denials have now issued forth from AB, not on the question of taste - but on the grounds they have not changed Bud Light.

- THE DEALER

## HOT GOSSIP

INTELLECTUAL property company **BTG** gained 6.5p to 220p amid suggestions Swiss biotech giant **Serono** could make itself more attractive to buyers by acquiring BTG - because of potentially huge royalty payments available for the UK company's multiple sclerosis treatment **Camphar**.

## Blades plan Chinese thrust

SHEFFIELD United is looking to buy a "major Chinese football club" to tap into a burgeoning enthusiasm for soccer in the People's Republic. The company said it was "carefully investigating the merits of possibly purchasing" a Chinese club to build on a pre-season tour to the country

and its existing development academy based in the southern city of Hainan.

Chief operating officer Mark Fennoughty said the club also hoped to attract investment and sponsorship from Chinese businesses at home.

He said: "We have good expertise in running football

clubs, and that's what we will be looking to export to China," said Fennoughty.

Sheffield United, nicknamed the Blades, already has one Chinese international on its books, Hao Haidong, and its youth academy is sponsored by Chinese travel agency Tianjin Sunark.

## FAIR SHARES

THE FTSE 100 Index fought back from earlier 48-point losses to close just 9.6 points lower at 5430 yesterday. Blue chip property companies were among the top performers, but bookmakers suffered as rumours did the rounds of a possible profits warning today from **Ladbrokes**.

# Going ape for digital



## 'Toon band boost sales

**DOWNLOADS, ringtones and Gorillaz meant EMI was on song in the first half.**

Digital sales of £44.6million and some strong music releases boosted turnover 5.8% to £924.6m - the first year-on-year increase for four years.

Chairman Eric Nicoli believes digital downloading to computers, iPods, MP3 players and mobile phones holds the key to restoring the music industry to growth now piracy has been "contained".

Nicoli said digital sales in the industry as a whole had almost offset a decline of nearly 1% of sales of "physical" products such as CDs in the six months to September.

And he added that global digital sales would grow from 5.8% of revenues now to 25% by 2010.

But the group said its CD sales were also booming.

Coldplay's album X&Y

■ by LAURA NEIL

sold 7.5m copies worldwide, while cartoon band **Gorillaz's** *Demon Days* sold 3.4m.

Nicoli also said Robbie Williams' new disc *Intensive Care* had sold 3.5m in just three weeks, making it his fastest selling album ever.

CDs would still be in demand by 2010, added Nicoli, because of the expense of download technology and the fact people like them as gifts.

## Talent

Recorded music chief **Alain Levy** said the pipeline of talent was looking good, with emerging artists such as **The Magic Numbers** and **KT Tunstall** doing well in the UK, and **Keith Urban** in the US.

Levy also expects **Apple** to introduce variable pricing on its iTunes service, which is responsible for more than 60% of the digital download market.

This will allow EMI to charge less money for emerging artists and more for superstars.

## MALLS SQUEEZE MOTORING ON

BRITAIN'S biggest property developer **Land Securities** warned yesterday rents from shopping centres will be hit by the retailing downturn.

But it predicted a boom in London office space.

The group - the leader in London offices - was the biggest riser in the

FTSE 100, gaining 80p to £15.83, as it unveiled first-half profits which had nearly doubled.

Chief executive **Francis Salway** said: "We expect that the rate of rental value growth in the retail sector will slow."

Pre-tax profits were up to £1.2 billion.

BRITAIN'S biggest car dealer **Pendragon** is considering taking over smaller rival **Reg Vardy** for £420million, it emerged yesterday.

**Sunderland-based Vardy** announced that it had received an unsolicited 750p-a-share bid approach

from **Pendragon**. A takeover would hand a £180m windfall to chief executive **Sir Peter Vardy** and his family, who own 28%.

And any such deal would also create a motor dealer with a market value of £1 billion.

## FTSE100 SHARE INDEX ▼ Down 9.60 point (-0.18%) at 5430.00

Company	Price	Change	High	Low	Company	Price	Change	High	Low	Company	Price	Change	High	Low
3i Grp	812	+7	815	809	Centrica	242.50	+1	244	241	Land Sec	1583	+80	1587	1515
A.B. Food	811	+2	863	723	Compass Group	204	-2	264	175	Legal&Gen	110	-	119	102
Alliance & Life	877	+3	947	814	Daily Mail	648	-	764	617	Lib-Int	397	+2	1025	861
Alliance Unich	785	-5	875	683	Diageo	843	+7	862	721	Lloyds Tsb Grp	458	-	509	415
AMVSCAP	387	+2	432	299	DSC Int	146	-3	167	138	Man Group	1682	+2	1711	1162
Anglo	1787	-25	1819	1130	Ent Inns	834	+4	872	610	Marke & Sp	438	-7	445	319
Antofagasta	1611	+5	1616	1082	Exel	1219	+4	1235	711	Morrison (Wm)	174	+2	234	161
Astrazenca	2580	+2	2767	1961	Friends Prov	186	-2	191	145	National Grid	534	+2	561	461
Aviva	683.50	+1	689	573	Gallagher Grp	896	-3	907	701	Next	1334	-11	1681	1268
BAA	631.50	+2	636	571	GlaxoSmithKline	1503.00	-10	1544	1101	Nthn Rock	817	-1	835	705
BAC Sys	340.00	-2	344	224	HBO	880	-11	912	732	O2	209	+1	209	106
BAE Sys	596	-7	614	519	Hilti Group	339	-10	356	257	Old Mutual	143.50	+1	144	115
BIG Grp	534	-3	540	344	HSC Hldgs	930	+4	936	826	Party Gaming	95	+1	176	71
BIG Bill	877	-12	916	564	Imp. Tobacco Grp	1680	+1	1693	1318	Pearson	548	-4	604	602
BOD Grp	1128	-6	1173	894	Intercen. Hotel	791	-	807	612	Prudential	507	-2	542	414
BOCS Group	601	-7	682	583	ITV	243	-	252	105	Rackit Bencker	1820	+27	1834	1513
BP	630.50	-3	683	500	Johnson Math	1240	+15	1240	915	Reed Elsevier	552	+3	555	451
Bp	741	+3	744	438	Kelda Grp	737	+16	737	526	REXAM	510	+6	519	443
Br Airlines	314	-3	320	215	Kingfisher	216	-	216	201	Royal Bank Scot	1674	+3	1833	1522
Br Amco Tob	1359	-20	1337	855	Land Sec	1583	+80	1587	1215	Royal Sun All	106	+1	106	73
Br Land	997	+24	1012	780	Land Sec	1583	+80	1587	1215	Ryl Dutch Shell 'A'	1768	+13	1875	1644
BSkyB	491.50	-1	595	487	Land Sec	1583	+80	1587	1215	Ryl Dutch Shell 'B'	1853	+8	1959	1727
BT Group	206	+2	225	194	Land Sec	1583	+80	1587	1215	SAB	1034	-22	1100	774
Cable & Wire	117.00	-2	164	107	Land Sec	1583	+80	1587	1215	Sage Grp	225	+1	238	184
Caerbay-Sch	565	-2	594	559	Land Sec	1583	+80	1587	1215	Sainsbury (U)	287	-4	302	257
Cain Energy	1863	-17	2018	1042	Land Sec	1583	+80	1587	1215	Schroders	879	-	947	675
Capita Group	384	-24	345	263	Land Sec	1583	+80	1587	1215	Schroders W	825	-5	875	613
Carnival	316.50	-11	3241	2637	Land Sec	1583	+80	1587	1215	Sci & Newcast	475	-1	492	416

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## Store banking on a recovery

**SAINSBURY'S** chief executive **Justin King** said the group remained on the road to recovery despite reporting flat first-half profits after problems at its banking arm.

"Given the market has been tougher than we expected, I think we can say we are a little ahead of the curve," he said.

Sainsbury's grabbed a 15.7% slice of the grocery market in the 12 weeks to November 6, up from 15.6% in the previous period, according to mar-

ket research firm **TNS Superpanel**.

But shares fell 4.5p to 287.25p on news that Sainsbury's Bank, a joint venture with **HBOS**, made a £50million loss in the first half after being hit by a sharp increase in bad debt provisions.

The losses forced Sainsbury's to ditch the £90m three-year profit target for the bank and its credit checking is being tightened up - with nearly three-quarters of loan applicants now rejected.







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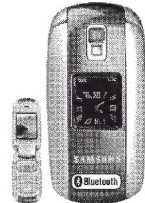
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- 64 chord tones

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**100 TEXTS**  
18 mth contract  
**SAVE £280.10**



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8.4% APR

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Promotion Example: £15,000 = 5 Monthly payments of zero followed by 115 monthly payments of £198.83. Total repayable £22,865.45 (8.9% APR Variable). Other lenders available & loan plans up to £100,000 also available. On some plans a fee of up to 10% of the amount borrowed may be payable.

Registered in Guernsey number 37613. Registered Office: 1 Le Marchant Street, St Peter Port, GY1 4HP. Debtmaster Loans is a trading style of Central Capital Limited. Telephone calls may be recorded.

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## MONEY &amp; LOANS

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- ▶ We apply a completion fee of £395. No Loan - No Fee is payable.

## REMORTGAGES

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- ▶ The overall cost for comparison is 7.6% APR
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This will depend on your individual circumstances and will be determined by your credit status, employment, available equity and other related factors. Our typical APR is the **HIGHEST** rate that we offer to 66% of our customers. Therefore the majority of our borrowers are offered a rate **lower** than our typical APR, although it is possible the rate could be higher. All offers are on a 'NO-OBLIGATION' basis. The actual rates offered will depend upon your circumstances, ask for a personalised illustration.

Freephone anytime to enquire:

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or you can enquire on-line @

**www.oceanfinance.co.uk**

or complete the coupon opposite for free information

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✓ I WOULD LIKE A NO OBLIGATION REMORTGAGE / LOAN PACK (details as applicable)

Full Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Postcode: \_\_\_\_\_

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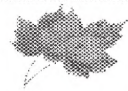
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**Porchester Finance**

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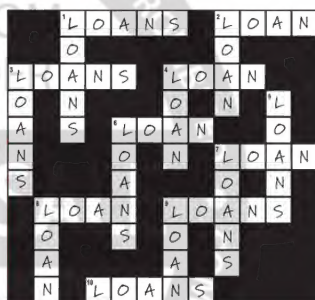
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£125,000	£520.83	£988.49	£824.94	£671.03
£150,000	£625.00	£1186.19	£989.93	£805.23
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# Paul ready to fire with the big guns

PAUL NICHOLLS will be hoping he's ended a "quiet patch" when Lord Annmer won at Wincanton yesterday. He's about to make another massive attack on the weekend's big races.

The Ditcher trainer still has the best strike rate of all the leading trainers this season at 23% - but it was even better a fortnight ago.

Luck was certainly against him early on yesterday when he lost novice hurdler Ain't That a Shame with a broken leg in the first race at his local track.

**Booked**

Then former smash hurdler Penrose fell heavily at the last fence of the novice chase when booked for second behind Nyrche.

But Nicholls has seen it all before and reckons that most of his horses have needed a run this season.

That could include his Cheltenham Festival winner Thisthatandother who lines up for the totepot Peterborough Chase at Huntingdon on Saturday.

But Nicholls also intends to run Le Roi Miguel, who bids for a repeat victory in the race that used to attract horses like Best Mate and Desert Orchid.

"It's a big ask for him to carry 11st12lb in the Becher Chase on Sunday," Nicholls explained.

"He is rated 155 so he carries big weights in the



HUNTINGDON DATE: Le Roi Miguel ready for the Peterborough

hunter in the John Smith's National, will challenge Kicking King and company for the £150,000 Grade 1 Belfair Chase at Haydock on the same day.

"It's a big ask for him to carry 11st12lb in the Becher Chase on Sunday," Nicholls explained.

"He is rated 155 so he carries big weights in the

to watch out for: Nicholls' own choice is **THE LUDEK**, a horse who won his only point-to-point in good style. "He runs on Friday and should win a novice hurdle. But he will make a lovely chaser," he insisted.

Nicholls' assistant Daniel Skelton went for **TURTHEN**. "He won a Grade 3 in France and was third in a Grade 1 behind Neptune Collonges," he said.

## YESTERDAY'S WINNERS AND PRICES

### 100-1 for Clockform

CLOCKFORM, our Time Lord, pulled off a master stroke yesterday when Barton Park his top rated horse in the opener at Wincanton won at 100-1.

And that wasn't all as among his other successes were Texas Holdem at 9-1; Stevedore 4-1 and Celtic Mill at 7-2.

Our other tipsters went nap happy yesterday with Tony Lewis making Precious Bane at evens his best of the day and both Star Tip (Peter Thickett) and Starform napped He's A Leader at 5-4.

**HEXHAM**  
12.20 (2m): 1. SCOTMAIL (G Lee 11-1); 2. Arman (T Scudamore 10-1); 3. Windy Hills (A Dobbin 4-1).  
Notaprobblem 7-2 fav. 5l. 13 ran. J Howard Johnson, Crook.  
Total: £110; pl £20, £50, £60, £100.  
exacta: £65.70; csf: £110.29.

12.50 (2m): 1. GARDASEE (J M Maguire evens fav); 2. Orang Outan (G Berridge 3-1); 3. Countrywide Sun (E Williams 20-1). 30l. 14l. 13 ran. T Tate, Tadcaster.  
Total: £200; pl £20, £30, £50, £70.  
exacta: £52.30; csf: £47.99.

1.20 (2m 4f): 1. TEXAS HOLD'EM (M J McAlister 9-1); 2. Vic The Piler (A Dobbin 6-4 fav); 3. Marsh Run (Mr T Grenall 8-1); and Posh Stick (Ben Orie-Powell 28-1). 5hd. 7/2l. 13 ran. M Smith, Kirkcubbin.  
Total: £104.40; pl £20, £30, £50, £70.  
exacta: £52.30; csf: £47.99.

1.30 (2m 4f): 1. SUPREME BREEZE (D Elsworth 14-1); 2. Mini Sensation (A P McCoy 9-1); 3. Capbara (D O'Meara 11-2 jv fav). Huka Lodge 11-2 jv fav. 7/4l. 12l. 13 ran. Mrs S J Smith, Bingley. Total: £117.70; pl £45.00, £50.00, £20.00.  
exacta: £97.00; csf: £123.20. tri-cast: £761.89.

2.25 (2m 10f): 1. PRECIOUS BANE (A Thornton evens fav); 2. Algarve (K Mercer 9-1); 3. Arctic Legend (O Nelmes 7-2). 1/2l. 10l. 9 ran. M Sheppard, Leckbury. Total: £200; pl £120, £60, £100, £170.  
exacta: £74.40; csf: £77.40.

3.00 (2m 4f): 1. ONELLA SPEED (P McDonald 16-1); 2. Uneven Line (Mr C Stacey 3-1); 3. Princess Grace (T Scudamore 12-5 fav). 10l. 1/4l. 7 ran. A Crook, Leckbury.  
Total: £259.90; pl £81.00, £170.00.  
exacta: £88.20; csf: £59.91.

3.35 (2m): 1. RED POKER (R McGrath 3-1); 2. My Final Bid (P Buchanan 12-1); 3. Mister Nelson (A Dobbin 2-1 jv fav). Panthers Run 2-1 jv fav. Total: £360; pl £160, £40, £80, £80.  
exacta: £77.70; csf: £69.78.

2.40 (5f): 1. CELTIC MILL (E Ahern 7-2); 2. Yomalo (C Cullen 12-1); 3. Polish Emperor (J Fanning 25-1). Quiet Times 3-1 fav. 1l. 5hd. 13 ran. D Barker, Richmond.  
Total: £360; pl £160, £40, £80, £80.  
exacta: £77.70. trifecta: £411.00. csf: £389.91.

**WINCANTON**  
1.10 (2m): 1. BARTON PARK (N Fehily 100-1); 2. Foxstall Vauke 9-1; 3. Neoturnally (J E Moore 20-1). Senorita Rumbalita 4-6 fav. 11l. Nk. 14 ran. D Keane, Shaftesbury.  
Total: £88.60; pl £12.50, £18.30, £20.00. exacta: £124.90; csf: £3,683.48.

1.40 (2m): 1. NYRICHIE (R Thornton 5-4 fav); 2. Tighe Caster (J P McNamara 9-2); 3. Berengario (R Greene 50-1). 10l. Dis. 5 ran. A King, Barbary Castle.  
Total: £22.40; pl £1.50, £5.40, £3.40. exacta: £37.70; csf: £33.79. tri-cast: £89.21.

2.15 (2m 6f): 1. HE'S A LEADER (T J Murphy 5-4 fav); 2. Middleham (W P Kavanagh 25-1); 3. Arm And A Leg (L Stephens 40-1). 5l. 4l. 9 ran. M Pipe, Wellington.  
Total: £22.40; pl £1.50, £5.40, £3.40. exacta: £37.70; csf: £33.79. tri-cast: £89.21.

2.50 (2m 5f): 1. SCOTS GREY (M Foley 3-1 fav); 2. Atum Re (W McCarthy 2-1); 3. Latimer's Place (J A McCarthy 100-30). 14l. 6l. 6 ran. N Henderson, Lambourn.  
Total: £36.00; pl £2.00, £2.00, £2.00. exacta: £16.80; csf: £13.32.

3.25 (3m 10f): 1. LORD ANNER (R Walsh 5-4 fav); 2. Noble Baron (M Bradburne 11-2); 3. Edelf (R Lucy-Lacey 100-30 jv fav). 10l. 6l. 11 ran. Miss E Lavelle, Andover.  
Total: £41.00; pl £1.10, £2.20, £2.00. exacta: £15.70; csf: £17.87. NR: Desert Secrets.

**QUADROT: £42.90**  
**PLACEPOT: £5,898.90**  
JACKPOT: not won, £5,898.90 carried over to Market Rasen.











## STAR RACING

## WINCANTON ON 09055 141 601 (611)

## 1.30 SOUTH WEST RACING CLUB H'CAP HDLE

Class E (11 flights) 2m5f (14 runners) £3,525

1	4021	EURADEM (58)(5)	1111	—	R Shepherd(7)	93
2	1355	KADAM (148)(F,D,S)	1111	—	L Howard(7)	93
3	004	COURANT D'AR (5)(5)	1111	—	Luchina Featherston 4 11 11	93
4	010	PROTAGONIST (F)(5)	1111	—	T Messenger(7)	93
5	115	LAUDANUS (15)(C,D,S)	1111	—	R Thornton	92
6	304	QUARRYMOUNT (19)	1111	—	E Bontford	77
7	05030	QUINTUS (21)(F,S)	1111	—	R Thornton	87
8	050	MAXIMUS (25)(F,S)	1111	—	Christian Williams	84
9	032	LORD NELSSON	1111	—	R Johnson	84
10	25	FUZZY (10)(F,S)	1111	—	P McNamara	84
11	5	KING OF SILVER (16)(F,S)	1111	—	R Greene +100	84
12	026	IDEAL JACK (19)(F,T)	1111	—	E Bontford(7)	84
13	47P	CLOUDY BLUES (18)(F)	1111	—	R Bitchcott	84
14	025	SKYE BLUE (32)(F)	1111	—	M Young(3)	84

Quarrymount, 7 Quintus, King of Silver, 10 Laudanus, 12 others.

2004: No corresponding race.

## STARFORM: LORD NELSSON Danger: Big Rob

## 2.00 TATTERSALLS NOVICES' CHASE (QUAL)

CI D mares (17 fences) 2m5f (11 runners) £5,498

1	44104	CABALLE (21)(F,S)(V)	—	—	M Scudamore (10)	67
2	22334	CANSALRUM (38)	—	—	R Walford	58
3	21344	DARJEELING (12)(F,C,S)	—	—	P Nichols 5 11	4
4	42F40	DE BLANC (12)(F,C,S)	—	—	M Young 5 11	4
5	44P53	EASIBROOK JANE (13)(D,S)(T)	—	—	C L Tizzard 7 11	4
6	102F0	KINGS BAY (24)(S)	—	—	H Morrison 5 11	4
7	72302	MOTCOMBE (23)(F,V)	—	—	R Alner 7 11	4
8	40P4P	MOULSAR (11)	—	—	J George 6 11	4
9	542P	PRISCILLA (22)	—	—	K Bishop 7 11	4
10	31102	SUPREME SERENADE (25)(F,D,S)	—	—	P Hobbs 6 11	4
11	P130	SWORD LADY (21)(D,S)	—	—	Mrs S Green 7 11	4

Star Betting: 1-4 Supreme Serenade, 7-2 Darjeeling, 7 Kings Bay, 8 Easibrook Jane, Motcombe, De Blanc, 12 Cansalrum, 14 others.

2004: Nas Na Righ, 5-11, (M Fitzgerald, 5-4) N Henderson, 7 ran.

## S'FORM: SUPREME SERENADE Dgr: Darjeeling

## 2.30 'HANDS AND HEELS' NOVICES' HANDICAP HDLE

Class E (8 flights) 2m (9 runners) £3,399

1	3280	ALBARINO (59)	1111	—	J Kingston(3)	71
2	282P	LA PROFESSORSA (F)(5)	1111	—	D P O'Dwyer(3)	71
3	0P	MR RHUBARB (19)	1111	—	K Burke(3)	71
4	254	NAGANO (19)(D,S)	1111	—	D Boland(3)	71
5	030	WIZZARD LAD (19)	1111	—	T Messenger	71
6	043	GLOWING EMERALD (3)	1111	—	J Pemberton(3)	71
7	5404	THE RIP (31)	1111	—	L Hand	71
8	020	SUNSET KING (40)	1111	—	James White	71
9	0563	JOSEAR (11)	1111	—	A Glassonbury(3)	71

Star Betting: 1-2 Nagano, 4 The Rip, 9-2 Glowing Emerald, 13-2 Sunset King, 7 Albarino, 8 Josear, 10 La Professorsa, 25 others.

2004: No corresponding race.

## STARFORM: THE RIP Danger: Nagano

## MARKET RASEN ON 09055 141 602 (612)

## TONY LEWIS STAR TIP

12.40	PARISIENNE GALE	12.40	PARISIENNE GALE
10	ASTRONAUT	10	ASTRONAUT
1.40	JULIUS CAESAR	1.40	JULIUS CAESAR
2.10	HEIR TO THE FLOW	2.10	HEIR TO THE FLOW
3.10	KITSKI	3.10	KITSKI
3.40	NOR'EAST	3.40	NOR'EAST

STARFORM: 2.00 Supreme Serenade (treble), 3.00 Le Jaguar (nb), 4.00 Denman (nap), all Wincanton.

CLOCKFORM: 3.00 (Wincanton) Zaffamore 1st win.

RUTWELLER: 12.40 Parisienne Gale, 1.10 Astronaut, 1.40 Julius Caesar, 2.10 Heir To The Flow, 3.10 Kitski, 3.40 Nor'east.

Extra Murex.

## GOING: Good to Soft-Soft in Places

JACKPOT/PLACE: First six races.

## TRACKFACTS

Tight right-hand oval circuits. The sharp bends favour the handy type. With eight fences that are not difficult, nor are the five hurdles.

## 12.40 HANDICAP HURDLE

(F) (8 flights) 2m1f (9 runners) £3,268

1	05P	FRIEDHELM (11)(D,S)	1111	—	Mis Redford(7)	37
2	10	BEAT (190)	1111	—	Mis Davidson(7)	37
3	046	SIEGFRIEDS NIGHT (11)(D,S)	1111	—	M Chapman(11)	37
4	3628	RIFLEMAN (11)(D,S)	1111	—	Mis Amling(7)	68
5	05P	POINTE COCK (11)(D,S)	1111	—	Mis Amling(7)	68
6	2496	ALPINE HIDEAWAY (32)(C,D,F)	1111	—	Mis Amling(7)	68

31F11 PARISIENNE GALE (12)(D,S), 9 Ford 11 12.

0405 COMMUNERATION DAY (21)(D,S) 11 12, Ann Stokell 7 12.

0906 UPWIND (13)(D,S) 10 13, 12 Cansalrum, 14 others.

Star Betting: 11-8 Parisienne Gale, 4 Nobel, 6 Rifleman, 7 Upwind, 8 Siegfrieds Night, 14 Alpine Hideaway, 25 others.

2004: No corresponding race.

## STARFORM: NOBEL Danger: Parisienne Gale

## 1.10 SELLING HANDICAP HURDLE

Class G (10 flights) 2m5f (9 runners) £2,172

1	5P	COMFORTABLE CALL (15)(C,D,S)	1111	—	H Alexander 7 11	67
2	2113	ASTRONAUT (85)(F,C)	1111	—	P Byrne 6 11	67
3	0505	CROWMILL (11)(C,D,F,S)	1111	—	M Chapman 10 12	67
4	030P	ILTON (170)	1111	—	D Coutelet(5)	67
5	0254	LAZZY LENA (13)	1111	—	T Siddall	66
6	132P	FLEMING (247)(F)	1111	—	A Fowler	66
7	020	AVANTI TIGER (85)(F)	1111	—	N Feilly	66
8	0503	SAMSON DES GALAS (13)(F)	1111	—	R Gray 7 10	66
9	050	SEAMING (173)(F)	1111	—	P Aspell(3)	66

Star Betting: 1-4 Comfortable Call, 16 Cromwell, 20 others.

2004: Mis Ridegiant, 5-10, (D Crosse), 12-1 G Brown, 7 ran.

## S'FORM: SAMSON DES GALAS Dgr: Astronaut

## 1.40 A J NEARY MEMORIAL BEGINNERS' CHASE

(E) (15 fences) 2m5f (10 runners) £3,787

1	51P3	CLASSIC KIPSERS (21)(D,S)	1111	—	F King(3)	477
2	122	MARTHA'S KINSMAN (201)(D,S)	1111	—	M Bradburne	477
3	382	STONEFORD BEN (19)(F)	1111	—	R McGee	477
4	142	THE RISING MOON (32)(F)	1111	—	A McCoy	477
5	025	EL ANDALUZ (9)	1111	—	A Dempsey	477
6	3111	JULIUS CAESAR (25)(D,S)	1111	—	M Young	477
7	1250	KIRK (46)(22)(D,S)	1111	—	O Meane	477
8	1250	MUNTERBAR (230)(F)	1111	—	T Murphy	477
9	5406	SERAPH (14)	1111	—	N Feilly	477
10	111	BELLARY JEWEL (201)(D,S)	1111	—	A Dobbin	477

Star Betting: 1-3 Julius Caesar, 7-2 The Rising Moon, 4 Martha's Kinsman, 11-2 Bellary Jewel, 7 King Kinsman, 8 others.

2004: Jummies, 7-11, (D R Dennis, 6-1) Williams, 10 ran.

## STARFORM: JULIUS CAESAR Dgr: King Kinsman

## 3.00 HAMILTON LITESTAT HANDICAP CHASE

Class C 3m4f (8 runners) £10,149

1	P1114	WHITEWING (20)(G,S)(T)	—	—	124
2	61056	INCA TRAIL (12)(C,G,S)	—	—	124
3	123P	P Nichols 9 11	124	—	124
4	0120P	FOX IN THE BOX (29)(F,G,S)	—	—	124
5	11F25	ZAFFAMORE (21)(C,F,G,S)	—	—	124
6	21F53	Tom Sayers (25)(F,C,F,G,S)	—	—	124
7	42020	Le Jaguar (25)(C,F,G,T)	—	—	124
8	0P011	P Nichols 5 10	124	—	124
9	42020	KOQUELICT (40)(C,G,S)	—	—	124
10	42020	P Hobbs 7 10	124	—	124
11	42020	SAFFRON SUN (16)(F,G,S)	—	—	124
12	42020	J Most 10 15	124	—	124

Star Betting: 4 Saffron Sun, 9-2 Whitewing, Le Jaguar, 6 Fox In The Box, Koquelict, 7 John Sayers, 10 Tom Sayers.

2004: No corresponding race.

## LE JAGUAR gets the vote

every runner can be given some of chance. The 11-year-old who has a fitness advantage over stablemate, Whitewing, who showed improved form last season after a bad campaign and teaming up with today's rider, Whitewing racked up three victories last term and finished with an excellent 4th to Jack High in

## STARFORM: LE JAGUAR Danger: Whitewing

## 3.30 LOTESPORT.COM HANDICAP CHASE

Class D (13 fences) 2m (5 runners) £5,449

1	33113	L'OISEAU (13)(F,C,D,F,G)	—	—	J Tizzard 10	67
2	01253	Mrs J Scrase 9 11	11	—	J Crowley	96
3	42260	ROOFING SPIRIT (12)(D,S)	—	—	D Jacob (7)	101
4	00012	NICK THE JEWEL (33)(F,D,F,G,S)	—	—	R Johnson 104	96
5	P3454	A Tarnell 10 11	11	—	R Thornton	96

Star Betting: 4-2 Nellina, 5-2 L'Oiseau, 3 Nick The Jewel, 19-2 Roofing Spirit, 7 Runner Bean.

2004: Runner Bean, 10-11, (J P McNamara, 7-1) R Lee, 7 ran.

## RUNNER BEAN can repeat last

year's win off the same mark. He needs to go right-handed and good ground, so conditions are ideal. However, there are form lines that tie him closely with both L'Oiseau and Nick The Jewel. L'Oiseau was 9-10 good for the selection over C&amp;D last month but is now 12lb worse off and meets Nick The Jewel on 14lb worse terms for the 21 that separated them at

## STARFORM: RUNNER BEAN Dgr: Nick The Jewel

## 4.00 HAMILTON LITESTAT NOVICES' HURDLE

Class D (11 flights) 2m5f (12 runners) £5,010

1	1	DENMAN (25)(C,D,G)	—	—	111
2	0506	BALLISTIGO (218)	—	—	62
3	0506	A King 6 10	12	—	62
4	0506	BARNEY BLUE	—	—	62
5	0506	WCM Team (10)	—	—	62
6	0506	R Bucker 10 12	—	—	62
7	0506	CANDELIGHT VALLEY	—	—	62
8	0506	P Hobbs 6 10	12	—	62
9	0506	HIGHLAND CHIEF (25)	—	—	62
10	0506	M's M Knight 5 10	12	—	62
11	0506	IT'S MY PARTY (21)(G,P)	—	—	62
12	0506	WCM Team (10)	—	—	62
13	0506	KARANJA (25)(F,S)	—	—	62
14	0506	LAHARNA (20)	—	—	62
15	0506	Mis E Lavelle 5 10	12	—	62
16	0506	SECRET DIVIN (19)	—	—	62
17	0506	J Aunry 5 10	12	—	62
18	0506	SPARTAN PLACE (275)	—	—	62
19	0506	SURFACE TO AIR (F13)	—	—	62
20	0506	R Lee 10 12	—	—	62
21	0506	P Duffell 4 10	12	—	62
22	0506	R Young (3)	—	—	62

Star Betting: 13-8 Denman, 15-8 KARANJA, 13-2 Candelight Valley, 10 Spartan Place, 14 Ballistigo, Highland Chief, 25 others.

2004: Patches, 5-11, (J Tizzard, 5-4) P Nichols, 6 ran.

## DENMAN and KARANJA are the

two to concentrate on. The selection, winner of an Irish punt, made a winning start over hurdles with a decent performance to beat Lys Green one and a quarter lengths over C&amp;D. He hurdled fluently showed the right attitude and is held in high regard and may be capable of defying the odds to win the 21st of his career.

KARANJA remains to be seen whether KARANJA is as good over hurdles as he is in bumpers last season. He showed signs of improvement on his hurdle bow at Antree (2nd), soft and failed to hold Jeremy Cudde back by a head. He jumped well in the main and travelled smoothly but was in receipt of cash and perhaps more was expected of him.

## STARFORM: DENMAN Danger: KARANJA

## RACING UK

## 4.30 SYMES BAINS BROOMER H'CAP CHASE

(D) (21 fences) 3m4f (8 runners) £5,725

1	UP	KARJA'S LANDING (16)(D,S)	1111	—	A McCoy	47
2	222	PARISIENNE GALE (16)(D,S)	1111	—	J McGee	103
3	322	HEIDI (11)(F,S)	1111	—	R Lyle	103
4	380	FOLLOW THE FLOW (21)(D,S)	1111	—	J Dwyer	92
5	22P	BOB'S THE BUSINESS (27)(D,S)	1111	—	A Dobbin	76
6	380	PARISIENNE GALE (16)(D,S)	1111	—	L Feilly	94
7	03P	VILLAR (24)(D,S)	1111	—	M Young	94
8	05P	BUZZYBARKSON (21)(C,D,S)	1111	—	J Moore	83

Star Betting: 2 Hawk's Landing, 4 Garryhoe, 11-2 Villar, 6 Villar, 8 Bob's The Business, 10 Follow The Flow, Fin Bec, 25 Buzzybarkson.

GARRYHOE is unopposed.

HAWK'S LANDING is the one horse in the race with the scope to improve. He made a successful chasing debut at Leicester (good), goodfellow, last year and then finished 2nd on his next three starts before taking a decent hit at Cheltenham (Amf), good to another Run where he would have finished closer but for some indifferent

## STARFORM: GARRYHOE Dgr: Hawk's Landing

## 3.10 BOOK FOR BOXING DAY H'CAP CHASE

(D) (15 fences) 2m4f (8 runners) £5,426

1	1423	KITSKI (18)(D)	1111	—	K Mercer(3)	43
2	48P	JONES'S RACE (21)(D,S)	1111	—	J McGee	85
3	380	BEAT THE HEAT (21)(D,S)	1111	—	R Harding	85
4	28P	DEEP WATER (21)(D,S)	1111	—	A Dobbin	85
5	521	BERGERAC (17)(F,S)	1111	—	P O'Neill(5)	85
6	0503	FIREY PEACE (40)(F,C,S)	1111	—	M Young	85
7	0503	TACOLINO (27)(C,D,F,G,S)	1111	—	N Feilly	85
8	0503	JAYBEAY (19)(F)	1111	—	J McGee	85

Star Betting: 7-2 Beat The Heat, 4 Tacolino, 9-2 Jones's Race, 12 Firey Peace, 7 Deep Water, 8 Bergerac, 10 Jaybeay, 12 Kitski.

2004: No corresponding race.

## STARFORM: BERGERAC Danger: Jones's Race

## 3.40 'NH' NOVICES' HURDLE

(E) (10 flights) 2m3f (16 runners) £3,405

1	31	NORHOREAST (20)(F)	1111	—	A McCoy	71
2	84	ACTUAL (32)	1111	—	J McGee	71</



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SCARY: Williams in the London Dungeon

## You're Dun for Audley

DANNY WILLIAMS has vowed to kill off Audley Harrison's world heavyweight title hopes.

Unbeaten Harrison, 34, insists he is closing in on a shot at one of the four world crowns.

But fellow Londoner Williams insists he will shatter his rival's hopes when they clash in London next month.

Williams, 32, got in the mood for his bid to end Harrison's title talk by visiting top tourist attraction the London Dungeon yesterday.

■ by NICK PARKINSON

And he pledged: "I'm going to be the executioner on December 10. "All his hopes and talk are going to be cut short because I won't be taking prisoners. It could be the end of him. "He will have to brush himself down like I have and improve on his bad points if he wants to come back."

# THERE'S NO WAY I'LL BLOW IT

## Says RICKY HATTON

■ by KEVIN FRANCIS

**SUPER-CONFIDENT** Ricky Hatton puts his IBF world light-welterweight title on the line next week insisting: "The thought of defeat has never entered my head."

He meets rugged Colombian Carlos Maussa, the WBA champion, in a unification battle at the Sheffield Arena. And Mancunian Hatton will be positively brimming with confidence when he enters the ring on November 26.

### Guided

It will be "The Hitman's" first fight under the banner of new promoter Denis Hobson's Fight Academy following his acrimonious split with Frank Warren, the man who guided him to the top of the world.

But despite the legal battle, in which Warren at one stage took out an injunction to prevent next week's fight taking place, Hatton said: "I am now fully focused on the Maussa fight."

"I know Maussa will be a very tough challenge but the thought of defeat has never once entered my head - that's how confident I feel in my ability to win yet again."

"Beating Kostya Tszyu to win the IBF belt in my last fight was a marvelous feeling."

"Now, after reaching such a pinnacle, I am certainly not going to lose, believe me."

Warren is still taking action against Hatton for an alleged breach of contract but, for the time being at least, the 27-year-old is free to concentrate on the Maussa fight.

### Legend

Hatton believes the legal problems that have beset him and his team in recent months have helped turn him into a better boxer.

He said: "The things that happen to you outside the ring make you stronger as a fighter."

But Hatton, who has won all of his 39 fights, went on: "I'd be a liar if I said my preparation has been ideal because it hasn't."

"It's been one thing after the other mentally and has been frustrating at times. "But if anything it just makes you more strong-minded to succeed."

Hatton's trainer, Billy "The Preacher" Graham, said: "Ricky is training hard for this fight."

"He is intent on unifying the division and wants to go down in boxing history as a legend."



**Just stick with us...**

■ RICKY HATTON is gearing up for his next big showdown - and we'll be with him every step of the way. Starsport is the biggest and best when it comes to boxing so make sure you read KEVIN FRANCIS with all the latest news from the big-fight countdown.

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## WIN BIG-FIGHT TICKETS

WE'VE teamed up with Fight Academy to give two lucky readers the chance to win a pair of tickets to Ricky Hatton's world title fight with Carlos Maussa at the Hallam FM Arena, Sheffield, a week on Saturday.

IBF light-welterweight world champion Hatton goes head to head against WBA champ Maussa.

After his amazing defeat of former champ Kostya Tszyu earlier this year, 'The Hitman' is looking to continue his unbeaten career record and add the WBA belt to his collection. To be in with a chance of claiming one

**Fight Academy**

of these fantastic prizes, just answer this question: Which football team does Ricky Hatton support?

Call 0905 072 3466 with your answer, name and details. Or text BIGFIGHT followed by your answer and details to 88833.

Calls cost 75p per minute from a BT landline (average call 90 seconds). Texts cost £1.50 plus your usual text tariff. Normal Daily Star rules apply. The competition closes at midnight tomorrow.

To guarantee a ticket to the fight, call the Hallam FM Arena box office on 0114 256 5656 or visit [www.hallamfmaarena.co.uk](http://www.hallamfmaarena.co.uk).



# WIN tickets to Twickers

CALLING all England fans. This weekend sees the big one, as England go head-to-head with the mighty All Blacks in one of their most important games since the World Cup final. It's a complete sell-out but you could still be there to catch the action live!

Starsport has teamed up with Powerade, the official sports drink of the Rugby Football Union and the England rugby team, to offer two lucky readers the chance to win a pair of tickets to see the huge clash at Twickenham on Saturday.

England will aim to build on their impressive victory over Australia last weekend in the second of their Investec Challenge autumn internationals. But they face a stern test from a New Zealand side looking to complete their first Grand Slam over the Home Nations since 1978.



Powerade will be pitchside at England internationals over the next three years to help the team perform at their very best. It has been specially formulated to offset the impact of dehydration by replacing essential fluids and body salts lost during exercise.

For your chance to win a pair of tickets tell us: **Who scored England's first try against Australia last weekend?** Email the answer to [starsport@dailystar.co.uk](mailto:starsport@dailystar.co.uk) today with your name, phone number and details. This prize draw is not open to employees of Express Newspapers, Coca-Cola GB, Coca-Cola Enterprises or any of their families or agents.

Entrants must be over 12 years old and winners under 18 must be accompanied by their parent/guardian. Travel and accommodation are not included in the prize. Full Terms and Conditions available upon request. Winners will be notified by phone tomorrow.

# COUNTDOWN TO ENGLAND v ALL BLACKS LEAVE IT OUT HENRY

**ENGLAND head coach Andy Robinson has hit back at Kiwi coach Graham Henry and told him: "Stop trying to wind me up!"**

by DEAN WILSON

Robinson was left fuming at Henry's accusation of video spying by England on an All Blacks training session on Tuesday.

The England boss has told Henry to "shut it" ahead of the big clash at Twickenham on Saturday, saying only the efforts of the players will matter.

And Robinson has backed his players to come up with the sort of physical performance that can stop the Kiwis from completing a Grand Slam over the home unions. Robinson said: "I think he is trying to wind me up. It does happen where coaches say things in the run up to big matches."

"But let me make it clear, the only thing that matters is what happens

on Saturday afternoon. It is the players and what they do on the pitch that matter.

"All the rest of it is irrelevant, the game is not won and lost by the coaches."

"I am annoyed at these allegations, because we had nothing to do with it and we should just move on."

"We've got to be focused on what we need to do, and that is smash the All Blacks shirts out of the way at the breakdown and put them under pressure for the full 80 minutes."

## Strain

**Luckily for England Charlie Hodgson has been declared fit to face the All Blacks in the biggest game of his career.**

Hodgson had been a major worry for the second international clash of the autumn after limping off with a groin strain 60 minutes into the Australia match on Saturday.



**OUCH!** Martin Corry and Perry Freshwater play-fight yesterday

But the Sale Sharks playmaker is fit enough to try to continue his good form and keep Bath fly-half Olly Barkley on the bench.

Unsurprisingly, Robinson has kept faith with the same 15 men who did the damage against the Wallabies, to start the game against the New Zealanders.

Hodgson said: "I'm fine to play, and I'm looking forward to the

game, it is going to be the biggest challenge of my career."

*"I was very worried that I wouldn't make it because my groin had been really stiff for the past couple of days."*

*"But I've been running today and doing a little bit of kicking, so I'll be fit to play and hopefully get a bit more of an expansive game going on Saturday."*

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Reality TV has its sights firmly fixed on the exploding online poker market. Channel Five's latest TV show, *Ultimate Poker Showdown*, is a good case in point. The concept is to take five newbies who've just about grasped the basics of the game and turn them into fully fledged pros in nine weeks. The reward for success is £100,000 in crisp virgin pound notes. At the outset the five contestants were only told they were going to be entered into a reality TV show where they would have to use mental gymnastics to win big money. They were NOT told poker was the game they were about to be asked to play. The contestants were blindfolded, taken to a secret destination, and eventually sat down at a poker table. There followed a crash course in poker from the Bellagio's Tournament Director, Jack McLelland, in which he detailed how rounds of betting are carried out and the way hand ranking works. Physics student Olivia Boeree became the star of the five poker virgins and confessed that once poker gets into your blood it takes a firm hold. Everyone of the contestants admitted to discovering they were closet card sharks, and spend every waking hour practicing online now that they've got the bug.

The highlight of the programme is mega star tuition from the likes of Dave "Devilfish" Ulliott and the Queen of Hold'em, Annie "The Duchess" Duke.

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## FIRST TEST: Skipper ready for surprise

# VAUGHAN



64-2: End for Bell



67-3: Strauss goes



67-4: Colly wobbles



93-5: Farewell Freddie



101-6: Pietersen's out



117-7: Bye, bye, Giles



166-8: Jones is out



166-9: Udal is bowled

IT'S ALL OVER: Pakistan paceman Shoaib Akhtar grabs a stump to celebrate the end of Steve Harmison and a dramatic 22-run victory

from RODNEY WHITE in Multan

**MICHAEL VAUGHAN** will ride to England's rescue after seeing his side get a mauling in Multan.

The Ashes stonkers turned into plonkers in Pakistan as they were skittled for 175, handing the hosts a shock 22-run victory in the first Test.

England lost six wickets before lunch and were still an hour away from tea when Stephen Harmison was last man out.

But the good news is that Vaughan is set to beef up the batting with a dramatic return for the second Test starting in Faisalabad on Sunday.

The return of the captain, out for a week with a twisted knee, is a huge boost to England's shattered spirits.

Coach Duncan Fletcher said: "He's coming on fine and there's a good chance he'll play."

#### Tossed

"His knee's always been a problem and might still be, but he feels comfortable and in a couple of days will be okay."

Vaughan's fitness verdict is the perfect pick-me-up after England tossed away the first of three Tests despite being on top for the first four days.

**Stand-in skipper Marcus Trescothick**, out for five in the second innings, slammed his side's lack of determination.

Tresco, who hit 193 in the first innings, snapped: "I was delighted with how things went for me personally but that's totally irrelevant. The result is the main thing."

"I thought we would knock the runs off pretty comfortably. We lacked application."

"We should have occupied the crease and the runs would have come easily. More application for

## Pryce is Well suited for

LEON PRYCE is favourite to replace Paul Wellens at full back as Great Britain chase the three-point win over Australia that will put them into the Tri-Nations final.

#### Nod

Wellens was yesterday ruled out of the face-off with the Kangaroos at Hull on Saturday with a knee ligament injury picked up in the victory over

by MARTIN RICHARDS

New Zealand. The 6ft 4in 16stone Pryce, who joins Wellens at St Helens next year, is expected to get the nod over Richard Horne after playing 10 games for Bradford at full back and excelling against the Kiwis in a roving role.

Pryce may not have the same defensive solidity as Wellens, the only specialist full back in

the squad, but Britain have to put maximum pressure on Australia.

Horne will come in for the stricken Paul Deacon at scrum half or be used off the bench.

#### Bow

Britain are very hopeful that Brian Carney, who injured a hamstring against the Kiwis, will be fit after taking part in training yesterday.

Hull winger Gareth Raynor could still make his Test bow on his home ground if Pryce is moved to full back.

"Gareth has had a fantastic season and has fitted in extremely well within the camp," said Lions assistant coach Jon Sharp.

New Zealand coach Brian McClennan wants a Kiwis-Lions final but thinks the Aussies will be too strong.



## comeback as England hit the buffers

## TO THE RESCUE



**DONE UP LIKE A SKIPPER:** Injured Michael Vaughan can't believe as Pakistan celebrate

the next game is going to be crucial.

"The bowlers worked particularly hard so the batters need to keep adapting to the pitches and come back strong."

"We'll stick together as a unit. You have to go through ups and downs and we'll come back strong and try to win the next one."

Andrew Flintoff and Kevin Pietersen were the main villains with silly shots as they threw their wickets away for 11 and 19 runs respectively.

### Hope

England had started the day on 24-1, needing 198 to win, and looked comfortable as Ian Bell and Andrew Strauss took the score to 66-1.

**But leg-spinner Danish Kaneria removed both in the collapse.**

Paul Collingwood went for three, followed by Flintoff and Pietersen, before Geraint Jones top-scored with 33 to give England hope.

He and Shaun Udal (18) added 49 runs for the eighth wicket but both fell on 166 and last an Harmison followed nine

runs later. Kaneria took 4-62 and paceman Shoaib Akhtar mopped up the tail with 3-49.

Fletcher said: "I believed we could get the runs. The guys just needed to show a little more patience."

**Pakistan skipper Inzamam-ul-Haq revealed the inspirational team-talk that put his side on the road to victory.**

He said: "We had the motivation and I told the boys 'Give me two quick wickets and we'll be on course to win'."

"It's always important to win the first Test of a series. It's difficult to say we can now win the series but we'll give it our best try."

**MATTHEW HOGGARD** has been hit by a £1,000 fine for excessive appealing. The England fast bowler was fined 20 per cent of his £5,000 match fee after breaking the ICC code of conduct during the dismissal of Pakistan opener Salman Butt on Tuesday.



### SCOREBOARD

**OVERNIGHT:** Pakistan 274 (Butt 74, Inzamam-ul-Haq 53; Flintoff 4-68 & 3-41) (Butt 122, Inzamam-ul-Haq 72; Flintoff 4-88), England 418 (Trescothick 193, Bell 71; Ahmed 4-54) & 24-1.

England 2nd ins cont.

Trescothick b Shabbir Ahmed	5
Strauss c Raza b Kaneria	23
Bell c Akmal b Kaneria	3
Collingwood lbw b Sami	3
Pietersen c Akmal b Sami	19
Flintoff c Khan b Kaneria	11
Jones b Akhtar	33
Giles b Akhtar	14
Udal b Kaneria	18
Hoggard not out	0
Harmison c Khan b Akhtar	9
Extras (b6 lb1 nb2)	9
<b>Total (52.4 overs)</b>	<b>175</b>

Fall: 1-7 2-64 3-67 4-67 5-93 6-101 7-117 8-166 9-166

Bowling: Akhtar 12-4-149-3, Ahmed 10-0-25-1, Kaneria 20-0-62-4, Sami 9-0-31-2, Malik 1-0-1-0.

**Pakistan won by 22 runs**

## Brits

The Kiwis will reach the final if Australia win, draw or lose to Britain by more than eight points.

McLennan said: "Australia's defence will be a lot harder to crack than ours was last weekend. Our marker defence was woeful and we were poor in a lot of areas."

**LEEDS** have snapped up former Wests Tigers skipper Mark O'Neill for a year.



**NO CARN DO:** Brian Carney is back in the red

## Toes goes in for a Win

**JAMES TOSELAND** has given the thumbs-up to the bike he will be racing next season as he bids to regain the World Superbike crown.

Toseland, 25, came through a rainy two-day test at Valencia positive about his first experiences on the Winston Ten Kate Honda bike.

The Sheffield rider said: "It feels excellent. I'm just getting used to it and there is plenty of time to learn the bike."

by DAVE FERN

"The team is working well together and I am comfortable about it every time I go out on track."

Rookie Craig Jones, 22, shone on his debut with the Foggy Petronas team. "My first impression is amazement, feeling the power," he said.



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**TEXTS TO RODNEY**  
☐ SPOT ON ABOUT THE BORO, THE PROBLEM WITH US WE WERE SPOILT WHEN ROBBO WAS IN CHARGE. SOME OF THE FOOTBALL WAS AMAZING, WHERE AS NOW ITS BORING AND MUNDANE, HENCE THE POOR CROWDS. DONT GET ME WRONG I HAVE GOT NOTHING AGAINST MCCLAREN, HE IS A WINNER, IT ALL COMES DOWN TO STAYING IN THE PREMIERSHIP IE THE MONEY WHEN WE HAVE GOT ENOUGH POINTS WE WILL CHANGE TO AN ATTACKING SIDE WELL WORTH THE ADMISSION FEE, BUT AT THE MOMENT IT COMES DOWN TO PICK AND CHOOSING GAMES. **DAVID DARCY**

### OTHER TEXTS

☐ Congrats 2 bursough on beating gillingham in cup but fleetwood town r comin 2 do wat gillingham failed 2 do uv been warned. Up the cod army. **Daz fwood**

☐ Greedy England players negotiate £300k world cup win bonus? The bonus is LIFTING the cup! Dave whu

☐ To sid@xcrement city fo. Your a joke mate, like your team! Lets all laugh at city ha ha ha! **Brooky pafc**

☐ We're little Wigan, we're champions league, we live in mud huts, we're avin a laugh! **Charlie, Wigan**

☐ To mac th mag do u write ur texts on way to dole sad tramp. **Bucky safe 4eva**

☐ P taylor, take that big chip of ur shoulder when it cums 2 spending big money, leicester was a long time ago **Bob the tiger**

☐ COULDN'T LOVE GREY-NA MORE, EVEN IF BEAN N CLOONEY SIGNED. **THE GREYNA GODESS**

☐ I have to say man u have the best players, rooney, Ronaldo, Henze, smith, Park, Nevill now u chelsea scum thats wot u call good players mufc n1. **KEL MAN UNITED**

☐ Richard Branson has offered 2 sponsor Sunderland. Chairman Bob Murray refused saying we cant have Virgin on our shirts when we're getting \*\*\*\*\* every week! **DaveBan NUFC**

☐ Dez and mike ur talkin s\*\*\*\*, watc are here to stay stay & y av not said wat

club ur from? Have we already beat you?

**All the lads from Fastcas**  
☐ Well said Dom about u saying Beckham still being world class player & still a role model 4 kids, I couldnt agree with u more. **Jan, Belfast**

☐ Peter Crouch is my spitting image but thats where all similarities end, im a miles better player than the useless twit! Mufc 4 ever! **STE RUTHERFORD**

☐ Eh whitestuff what moon have you come from Stevie G has been a red all his life wake up and smell the coffee k@@bh@@d! **Daveredurchin**

☐ Shearer did NOT get wot he deserved! People go on about the Bower thing like its a big deal! Big Al was hurt on purpose. He shud get him up in court 4 sure!! **Craig K**

☐ 2 all u hfc t t turnp where givin u a week t get it together. **Cas bfc**

☐ Forest to have 20 years of hurt: they'll end up in conference north. Great. **Notts rams**

☐ To smegul jealousy is so sad you must be a good looking boy to have a name like that ha ha! **Top boy**

☐ Where r all the chelsea fans? The silence is deafening! Man u on the way back. **Mr D**

☐ To wayne efc behave urself lad joanie efc talks more s\*\*\*\* than bill kenwright c u in december u blue nose tttt you'll never walk alone 5 times. **DRAGON**

☐ Dez&mike, Wigan are where they are because they deserve it... Accept it... Deal with it... Move on! You bore me! **Mackam latic**

☐ Dez n mike, Wigan r quality team. Give us a chance \*\*\*\*\*. **Al manchester**

☐ On peter crouch's worst day he is still better than Ferguson, bent and big t\*\*\* beattie, take no notice of the bouscrouchy lad! 5 times. **Scouts John**

☐ Good to see harry buying fantasy players for scummers in dreamteam only way they'll go up! Fratton enter! **Roy Keane is a Brilliant**

☐ Psychological Coach Congrats 2 Man Utd, Chelski fans how many games unbeaten when U visit Upton Park? **BigIn**

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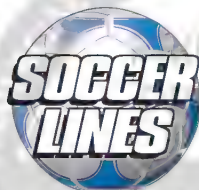
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■ CHARLTON recorded a net profit of £1.3m for the year ending June 2005 – a long way down on the previous year when the figure was boosted by the £10m sale of Scott Parker to Chelsea.

■ MARK HUGHES has taken USA midfielder Brian Carroll on trial at Blackburn after the DC United star impressed him during America's 1-1 draw with Scotland.

■ WEST BROM boss Bryan Robson is chasing the £700,000-rated Polish international centre-back Jaroslaw Bieniuk, 27, who was on trial at Albion last summer.

■ WOLVES have agreed a deal with Spurs to keep midfielder Tom Huddlestone, 18, on loan at Molineux for a second month.

■ ALAIN Perrin insists he won't be making a move for former Chelsea defender Marcel Desailly, 37, who wants to return to the Premiership after quitting Qatar side Al Gharafa.

■ BRIGHTON boss Mark McGhee wants to sign Cork City centre-half Dan Murray, 23, after watching the Irish side last week.

■ IAIN DOWIE admits he could be the next victim of Crystal Palace axeman Simon Jordan, with the Eagles 20-points behind league leaders Sheffield United.

■ BLACKPOOL'S stand-in boss Simon Grayson made his first signing yesterday, snapping-up midfielder Gary Harkins, 20, on a month's loan from Blackburn.

■ SOUTHEAST boss Steve Tilson is poised to open talks over a new three-year contract after an impressive start to the season in League One.

■ CARDIFF boss Dave Jones insists only an "unbelievable" offer would prise Cameron Jerome away from Ninian Park, after Tottenham checked out the young striker.

■ TEENAGE Newcastle keeper Ben Smith is having trials at Leeds.

■ BOURNEMOUTH are giving an extended trial to Lymington & New Milton right-back Pete Smith, 20.

■ READING'S Brynjar Gunnarsson, 30, is out of Saturday's clash with Hull after failing to recover from a groin injury.

■ WALSALL are planning a January bid for TNS keeper Gerard Doherty, 24, who played a starring role in the Welsh side's Champions League defeat by holders Liverpool.

■ NEWCASTLE are leading the race to sign Anderlecht's talented Swedish winger Christian Wilhelmsson, 25, during January's transfer window.

■ SUNDERLAND midfielder Grant Leadbitter, 19, has returned to the club after picking up a shin injury during his loan spell at Rotherham.

**SERIOUSLY football**

# Hammers ace Reo-Coker shows he's SUPERSTAR? REAL HEROES ARE DOCTORS AND NURSES



**PARD-NERS:** Reo-Coker with West Ham United manager Alan Pardew

**THIS is no ordinary interview with a 21-year-old professional footballer. This is a one-off.**

Every so often, a young man emerges who is mature beyond his years. Who helps repair the image of the game a minority do their best to spoil.

Midfielder Nigel Reo-Coker is 10 years ahead of his time. Just like former West Ham great Martin Peters was in the 1960s.

We wait to see whether Reo-Coker can equal Peters on the pitch. Off it he is already a wonderful advert for modern-day football.

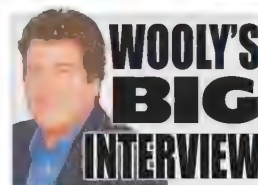
Here is a possible England captain in the making and it was refreshing to talk to him at West Ham's Chadwell Heath training ground on Tuesday morning.

## Pleasure

"I'm not the norm in football. I know that," he said. "If you were defining today's player it would not be me.

"I don't like all the spotlight and I find being asked for my autograph embarrassing. I hate it. This is what I do and I'm no different to the man on the street.

"Superstar heroes? I don't think so. The real heroes in this world are doctors and nurses, people who save lives. They do things that affect others. Okay, I can give pleasure to a



lot of people by playing football and helping West Ham win, but being humble takes you a long way in life.

"There are so many people on this planet who do as much as footballers and don't get the recognition. What I don't like is when I meet people for the first time and they ask what I do and I say professional footballer, they immediately have an opinion.

"Yet they don't know me. I'm conscious of the image of the game and it is only a tiny minority that spoil it for the rest. It is the same in society, like for black people and the fight against racism.

**"It hurts me when I hear people say all footballers are overpaid and unintelligent. I get disheartened."**

Reo-Coker's father is a doctor, now separated from his mother Agnes, and lives back in Africa. "I don't see him, it is not a sore point and I'm fine about it," he said.

"My mother pushed the family through education and that was her

## SPORTWORD

- ACROSS**
- ..... Academic, Scottish football club (8)
  - London Test cricket ground (5)
  - Costantino ..... Italian golfer (5)
  - and 6 down. Premiership football club (6,9)
  - ..... Friedel, Blackburn Rovers and USA goalkeeper (4)
  - Pat ..... Arsenal, Watford and Northern Ireland full-back (4)
  - Michael ..... former IBF world heavyweight champion (6)
  - ..... Ardiles, former Spurs and Argentina midfielder (5)
  - ..... Miller, female American sprinter (5)
  - Durham and England fast bowler (8)
- DOWN**
- ..... Graham, former British and European middleweight champion (5)
  - Venue of the 1980 Summer Olympics (6)
  - Brian ..... West Indies batsman (4)
  - ..... de la Hoya, boxing world champion at more than one weight (5)
  - Brazil international formerly with Manchester United (9)
  - See 9 across.
  - The ..... nickname of Bristol City (6)
  - Rui ..... Portugal midfielder (5)
  - Robbie ..... former WBO bantamweight champion (5)
  - Apparatus for female gymnasts (4)

CALL 0905 072 3266 FOR TODAY'S SOLUTION. Calls cost 75p per min from a BT landline. See Page 61 for yesterday's answers.



## Som's cheeky return

DAVID SOMMEIL will wear a protective mask to speed up his return from a depressed cheekbone.

The Manchester City defender has been out since suffering the injury in the Premiership clash with Aston Villa two weeks ago.

But the French centre-half is now ready to return to training with a face mask to guard against further injury.

City assistant boss Steve Wigley said: "David will hopefully start training again next week but he is in a position where he will

by MARK OGDEN

need to wear a mask. Unfortunately he got an infection when he got the operation which delayed things a little bit, but that's come out now."

Meanwhile, new Finland international midfielder Tuomas Haapala, 26, is on a week-long trial with City.

He skipped MyPa to the Finnish title last season.



# Captain Sensible



**NIGE NETS:**  
Reo-Coker  
(left) celebrates a  
goal with Hayden  
Mullins and Anton  
Ferdinand (right)

stipulation. Both my sisters got degrees and as the youngest child of the family I didn't want to be the failure.

"I believe everyone has a time to shine and hopefully mine is coming. I am religious and believe in God. I'm not a perfect Christian and you can be a good person just by how you go about life and treat other people.

*"I have seen things in life and it's funny, sometimes you don't see things straight away."*

"You suddenly realise that maybe it happened for a reason. I'm very determined and ambitious."

## Fractured

Reo-Coker, who has an interest in graphic design, reading and deep-sea fishing, arrived at West Ham from MK Dons for £500,000.

He's worth that for his ambassadorial qualities alone. Picked up by Wimbledon after playing in Sunday league football around Carshalton in Surrey, he has graduated quickly to West Ham and England Under-21 captain.

As we talked, he nursed a fractured left ankle in a 'Robocop'-type boot, an injury that may keep him out for six weeks. He says he will be back sooner.

"I have always been able to handle

setbacks and take positives out of every situation," he said.

"Being involved in the Dons' switch to Milton Keynes was not easy, playing at home in front of 150 of your own fans. It is character-building.

"I have always been a leader, strong verbally on the pitch. Always had the loudest mouth and it came naturally. It had nothing to do with my home environment yet as soon as I cross the white line I change. It is a big part of my game.

"I wasn't intimidated by the Premiership, it was a dream come true and I have worked hard to be here.

"I said to myself, 'don't hide'. I do get a good response from players and I have always been able to take criticism. I try to dominate games.

*"When some players are shouted at they crumble. I can take it on board. We all like a cuddle and praise but you must be able to take the stick."*

"I believe joining West Ham was meant to happen. As soon as they were in I wanted to sign and the tradition is all around, pictures of Bobby Moore and other stars at the training ground and Upton Park.

"You can smell the history. We like to think the circle has turned for

West Ham. Manager Alan Pardew said he liked my qualities, saw me as a leader and when someone says that there is no choice.

"I'd also like to mention Teddy Sheringham and how fantastic he has been to everyone. He has helped me a lot.

"He has been a big influence on the other players and again I think he is at this club for a reason and us being with him, too."

To emphasise why Reo-Coker believes in fate so much he recalls the day he was rejected by Crystal Palace.

"They wrote a letter to my mum saying I wouldn't make it. She was heartbroken and knew I'd be devastated so she didn't show it to me," he said.

## Invited

"A short time later, Palace got into bad times and all the youngsters and youth team were disbanded. Had I gone there who knows what would have happened.

"Also, Fulham didn't keep a promise that they would call me and Wimbledon rang the same day and invited me for a trial. So who knows? Yes, I believe in fate. I want to challenge myself. At 21, I'm just starting with my ambitions."

**BRIAN WOOLNOUGH**



**JEWELL:** Pulling 'em in

## Sold on Wigan

WIGAN will have their first-ever sell-out crowd at the JJB Stadium when Arsenal visit on Saturday.

Paul Jewell's side will move within three points of leaders Chelsea if they beat Arsene Wenger's men in the lunchtime kick-off.

The game is already a 24,900 sell-out, beating the 23,575 record gate for Wigan's opening day defeat by Chelsea.

Wigan chief executive Brenda Spencer said: "Considering what our crowds were when the stadium opened six years ago, it's quite an achievement that this is the first time we've sold out at the JJB for a football match."

## JIMMY: I'LL PROVE I'M REAL DEAL

JIMMY FLOYD HASSELBAINK'S mission is to score enough goals to win a new two-year deal at Middlesbrough.

Hasselbaink, 33, was Boro's top scorer with 15 last season but he is out of contract in the summer. The Dutch star said: "If I have the opportunity to finish my career with Middlesbrough, I'll grab it with both hands. I'm still hungry and there are still a lot of things I want to do.

"My contract is up at the end of this season and, in a perfect world, I would like to play here for two more seasons."

■ by GEORGE SCOTT

### Desire

"People ask when I will stop playing but it's a case of asking myself whether I want to carry on - and I do.

"Unfortunately, it's not just up to me. I have to show everyone I still have the ability and will to win."

Hasselbaink has only started three league games this term as he faces competition from

£7m summer signing Yakubu. But he has scored goals in the league, the UEFA Cup and the Carling Cup.

He added: "I have to show people I can still score and that I still have the same desire.

"I know that to be the case but other people have to be convinced.

"I know it will be sorted out at the end of the season and that's good enough for me."

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## Ferdinand fury

ANTON FERDINAND admits he is still fuming over England Under-21s controversial KO in France.

Ferdinand sparked more comparisons with his big brother Rio with a fine performance at the back.

But the players were furious with Chelsea's Lassana Diarra, who they accused of diving to win a crucial penalty in the 86th minute.

■ by AIDAN MAGEE

The 2-1 play-off defeat robbed Peter Taylor's team of a European Championships place in Portugal next year.

West Ham defender Ferdinand, 20, said: "Losing a game like that was hurtful and soul-destroying but we have to try to keep our heads up.

"When you feel something is not right it

feels hurtful. One of the main issues was that they were trying to get our players booked."

Ferdinand returns to league action against Spurs on Sunday - and will face old Hammer pal Jermain Defoe.

He added: "I want to play against him in a competitive game.

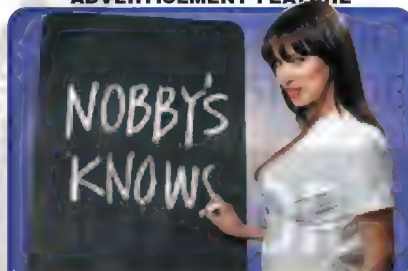
"If I didn't fancy my chances there would be no point."



**FERDINAND:** Still fuming



## ADVERTISEMENT FEATURE



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This week we're still bringing you top Tasty Tips - pieces of fascinating advice.



### SPIN THE BALL

When in danger of potting the cue ball hit towards the bottom of it while making the shot and, after hitting the ball you want to pot, it will spin backwards.

### GET A POKER FACE

Whether you're going to raise or fold, take time before making your move and watch your opponents - if they make a quick check of their hand it often means they have a poor one.

### GET BIGGER BICEPS

To get those rippling muscles it's best to lift weights slowly rather than quickly - mind you, for most of us, that isn't a problem.

### ON A ROLL

When packing your bags for your hols roll clothes instead of folding them and you'll arrive at your destination with crease free garments. Depending on how the baggage handlers feel that day of course.

## THE BIG NUMBER CRUNCHER

Collect a single digit figure by choosing the correct number from our Number Cruncher, every day in the Daily Star. The whole week's questions will be repeated in Friday's column where there will be the chance to send in the correct five digit code to enter our prize draw - with the chance to win a Honda Civic Type R.

### THE QUESTION

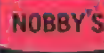
How many deadly sins are there supposed to be?

A. 1 B. 4 C. 7



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## SERIOUSLY FOOT

# Aussie aces' World Cup stunner



WIZARDS OF OZ!  
Harry Kewell  
and Tim Cahill  
celebrate

# ROO BEAUTIES

**MAGIC** Mark Schwarzer blasted Uruguay's dirty tricks after saving the day for World Cup-bound Australia.

The Middlesbrough keeper sparked a massive party Down Under as he saved TWO penalties to send the Socceroos to Germany next summer.

It meant the end of Australia's World Cup play-offs hoodoo, which has lasted since their only appearance in the finals also in West Germany in 1974.

Schwarzer, 33, kept out spot-kicks from Marcelo Zalayeta and Dario Rodriguez to clinch a 4-2 shoot-out success after the Aussies won 1-0 to level the tie at 1-1 after 120 minutes. And the shot-stopper reckons former World Cup winners Uruguay paid the price for nasty tactics both in this tie and four years ago, when they beat the Aussies in the 2002 play-off.

He said: "They have been playing games since day one, from when we arrived in Uruguay last week until yesterday."

### Slotted

"They were playing games in the tunnel before the game and they didn't play in a sporting manner, so it was great to put one over on them."

Marco Bresciano scored after 35 minutes and former Portsmouth forward John Aloisi slotted home the crucial spot-kick to send 83,000 Sydney fans

by ALISTAIR GRANT

into ecstasy. Schwarzer's Boro team-mate Mark Viduka missed in the shoot-out, but Liverpool's Harry Kewell and Blackburn's Lucas Neill did score, along with Tony Vidmar of Championship side Cardiff.

Neill said: "Mark Schwarzer will take the plaudits and deservedly so. It went to the wire and was nerve-racking."

Coach Guus Hiddink, who also manages PSV Eindhoven, is targeting more glory after taking South Korea to the semi-finals four years ago. And Schwarzer warned the world: "We're not there to



SPOT ON!  
Keeper Mark Schwarzer saves Uruguay's first spot-kick and hero John Aloisi (inset) nets the winning penalty for Australia

make up the numbers but to put in some great performances."

**Skipper Viduka said:** "I believe we won't just mix with the other teams but compete as well."

Australian Prime Minister John Howard was quick to congratulate the team, saying: "My faith in penalty shoot-outs is restored. I wish the team well for the World Cup."

Hollywood actor John Travolta, whose wife Kelly Preston is an Aussie, got in on the action by celebrating with the Australian team in the dressing-room.

## Dwight's delight

DWIGHT YORKE is back in the big time after Trinidad and Tobago qualified for the World Cup finals for the first time, winning 1-0 in Bahrain for a 2-1 aggregate victory.

Ex-Manchester United and Aston Villa star Yorke, now playing Down Under, supplied the cross for Dennis Lawrence to head the winner.

Goalkeeper Kelvin Jack made an outstanding save seconds from time to send Trinidad through. Switzerland qualified on away goals after losing 4-2 in Turkey. The Swiss led 2-0 from the opening leg, and Tuncay Sanli's hat-trick was in vain.

Wales lost 1-0 away to Cyprus in a friendly, going down to a first-half penalty from Chrysis Michael in Limassol. Substitute Robert Earnshaw wasted Wales' only chance when he burst down the left only to fire wide.

## THE FINAL 32

Germany	Czech Rep	Japan
Ukraine	Spain	Iran
Holland	Switzerland	Korea Republic
Poland	Argentina	Saudi Arabia
England	Brazil	Trinidad & Tobago
Croatia	Ecuador	Angola
Italy	Paraguay	Ivory Coast
Portugal	USA	Togo
Sweden	Mexico	Ghana
Serbia & Mont.	Costa Rica	Tunisia
France	Australia	



# SERIOUSLY football FA CUP: Posh go for a Burton

## HARRAD SAILS IN

by JOHN PERCY  
Burton 1 Peterborough 0

SHAUN Harrad put Burton in with a great chance of reaching the third round and a champagne clash for the Brewers.

Harrad's late goal gave Nigel Clough's side a shock victory last night and they now have a home tie against Unibond Premier League minnows Burscough.

Peterborough, gunning for promotion in League Two, could not find a way past the part-timers at London Road in the first tie and there was more frustration.

The visitors, playing in the first ever competitive match at Burton's new Prell Stadium were well on top early on but found rookie goalkeeper Saul Deeney in the mood to make himself a cup hero.

### Heroics

Adam Newton saw his shot repelled by the young Irishman before a low shot was tipped around the post.

Clough's Brewers have struggled in the Conference despite a five match unbeaten run and failed to impose themselves.

Burton's only chance of the first half came from Ryan Austin's 25-yard free kick that arrowed straight into the face of a disbelieving Posh fan.

But Posh just could not make their superiority count and again Deeney performed heroics on the stroke of half-time to keep out Lee Thorpe's close range effort.

Burton came out fighting in the second half and Harrad sent a low skidding shot narrowly wide and on the hour Posh keeper Mark Tyler needed to be alert to stop Jon Shaw's deft header.

With 17 minutes left Harrad burst through the Posh defence and lashed the ball into the roof of the net to spark the celebrations.

### Boston 4 Swindon 1

JULIAN Joachim scored a first-half double and Bradley Maylett and Jason Lee were also on target as League Two side Boston dumped out Swindon.

The League One side - who had keeper Tom Heaton sent off - netted through Rory Fallon.

### Oldham 4 Chasetown 0

CHRIS PORTER bagged a second-half double as Oldham booked a second-round clash with Brentford.

Nicky Harrison, Chris Slater and Karl Edwards all went close for Midland Alliance Chasetown before Paul Warne crashed in a 20-yarder on 30 minutes.

Chasetown were denied an equaliser on 44 minutes when keeper Chris Day pulled off a wonder save to keep out Kevin Thompson's bullet header.

Porter's close-range strike after 57 minutes and a 75th-minute effort from 20 yards smoothed the way for Ronnie Moore's men.

Chris Hall wrapped it up six minutes from time with a far-post header.

### by DAVE ARMITAGE

a decent offer comes in. The Cameroon international, who cost £1.35m, rapped: "It's the manager. He needs to change the team sometimes."

### Tears

"When we lose every day, he needs to see what's not working and change the team." A run of three consecutive defeats has sent Villa slip to within a point

## Boro given a Bash-ing

STEVE BASHAM hit a hat-trick to dump non-league Eastbourne out of the FA Cup last night.

Oxford now travel to League Two rivals Cheltenham in the second round after they survived a nervy opening to eventually put the game beyond their part-time visitors.

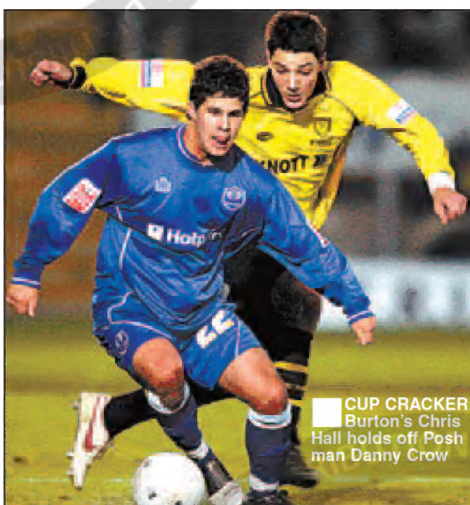
Eastbourne bridged a two-division gap early on and were dangerous on the break, as they showed on 14 minutes when former Yeovil striker Yemi Odubade raced clear down the right before crossing to Scott Ramsay, who head-

### Oxford 3 E'bourne 0

ed on to the bar. But Basham calmly slotted Oxford ahead on 20 minutes after latching onto an inside pass from Eric Sabin, who had ripped the Eastbourne defence apart with a driving 20-yard run.

Basham claimed his second when he met Barry Quinn's left-wing cross with a diving header just before half time.

The Oxford striker left it late to claim goal number three, but wrapped up the replay in injury time as he slotted home from the penalty spot.



CUP CRACKER: Burton's Chris Hall holds off Posh man Danny Crow

## Information Station

### FOOTBALL

#### FIFA World Cup European Qualifying Play Offs Second Leg

Czech Republic (1) 1	Norway (0) 0
Rosicky 35	
Att: 17,464	
Agg: 2-0	
Slovakia (0) 1	Spain (0) 1
Holoko 50	Villa 70
Agg: 2-0	
Turkey (2) 4	Switzerland (1) 2
Sani 22, 36, 89	Freil 1 pen
Agg: 5-2 pen	Stiller 84
Agg: 4-4; Switzerland win on Away Goals Rule.	

#### FIFA World Cup Asia/CONCACAF Play Offs Second Leg

Bahrain (0) 0	Trinidad and T (0) 1
Agg: 1-2	
Sent off: H Al Baba (Bahrain) 90	

#### South America/Oceania Play Offs Second Leg

Australia (1) 1	Uruguay (0) 0
Bresciano 35	
Agg: 1-2	
AET: Score after 90 mins 1-0; Agg: 1-1; Australia win 4-2 on penalties.	

#### European U21 Ch'ship Play Offs Second Leg

Croatia (1) 1	Serbia and Mont (1) 2
Agg: 2-5	

#### FA Cup First Round Replays

Boston (4) 4	Swindon (0) 1
Joachim 10, 23	Fallon 83 pen
Agg: 4-1	
Marshall 40, Lee 45	
Att: 2,467	
Sent off: T Heston (Swindon) 18	
Burton Albion (0) 1	Peterborough (0) 0
Att: 2,511	
Cheltenham (1) 1	Leyton Orient (2) 2
Hurst 19	MacIs 19
Att: 4,895	Tutor 43
Oldham (1) 4	Chasetown (0) 0
Warne 31	
Porter 56, 75	
C Hall 94	
Oxford Utd (2) 3	Eastbourne B (0) 0
Agg: 3-0	
Att: 4,396	

#### Second Round Draw: Walsall v

Yeovil Town, Woking v Northwich Victoria, Burton Albion v Burscough, Aldershot Town v Southport United, Shrewsbury Town v Colchester United, Hartlepool v United v Tamworth, Cheltenham Town v Oxford United, Mansfield Town v Grays Athletic, Harefield v Stockport County, Stevenage Borough v Northampton Town, Port Vale v Bristol Rovers, Boston United v Doncaster Rovers, Rushden & Diamonds v Leyton Orient, Nuneaton Borough v Histon, Oldham Athletic v Brentford, Southend United v Milton Keynes Dons, Worcester City v Huddersfield Town, Torquay United v Notts County, Barnsley v Bradford City, Chester City v Nottingham Forest.

Times to be played weekend of 3rd/4th December

Unibond Premier Division: Whitley 1, Farnley Colliery 1.

Southern Premier Division: Tiverton 3 Vate 2.

ANSWERS: See right

1 Which famous Hungarian footballer sold his memorabilia for £85,000 at auction in October to help in his battle with terminal illness?

2 Muhammad Ali successfully defended his heavyweight title in 1976 against a boxer with the same name as an ex-Radio Two presenter. Who was it?

3 Southampton against Arsenal in the 2003 FA Cup Final, having made just three appearances for his club, two of those as substitute?

4 Which South African was runner-up to Tiger Woods in three majors in 2007?

5 Name the first country to host the Commonwealth Games on two occasions.

ANSWERS: See right

### CRICKET

#### First One Day International Hyderabad: India v South Africa

India 249-9 (Vuvra Nair Singh 103) v South Africa 252-5 (J H Kallis 88no), South Africa beat India by 5 wickets.

### SQUASH

CNS International Championship (Karachi, Pakistan) - Final: J Kemp (Eng) bt A Khan (Pak) 11-8 10-11 11-5 11-2.

### TENNIS

Masters Cup (Shanghai, China) - Group B: N Davydenko (Rus) bt G Gaudio (Arg) 6-3 6-4, F Gonzalez (Chi) bt M Puerta (Arg) 6-3 4-6 6-0.

### TODAY'S DIARY

Football (7.45pm unless stated) International Mexico v Bulgaria (4pm) Women's World Cup Qualifier: Holland v England (6pm).

Barclaycard Premiership Reserve-North: Man Utd v West Brom (7pm).

### CRICKET

Second Test Match-day 2 of 5: Australia v West Indies (Hobart). Tour Match: India Under 21 Women v England Women (Meerut).

### GOLF

WGC - Algarve World Cup (Victoria Club de Golf, Algarve, Portugal). LPGA ADT Ch'ship (Trump International Golf Club, West Palm Beach, Florida).

Japan Golf Tour Dunlop Phoenix (Phoenix Country Club, Miyazaki, Japan).

Carlsberg Masters Vietnam (Chi Linh Star Golf & Country Club, Hanoi, Vietnam).

### MOTOR RACING

World Touring Car Ch'ship rd 10 (Macau, China).

### RUGBY UNION

Principality Building Society Premiership (7pm): Neath v Carmarthen, Llanelli v Aberavon.

### SNOOKER

China Open Qualifying (World Snooker Centre, Preston). Betfred Premier League: Stephen Maguire v Steve Davis, Ronnie O'Sullivan v Ding Jun-Hui (Glasgow Arena, Kildermister).

### TENNIS

Masters Cup Shanghai (China). ACROSS: 1 Bradford, 6 Sella, 7 River, 9 Amos, 10 Jensen, 12 Sussex, 14 Paul, 17 Alain, 18 Carlo, 19 Ayresome.

DOWN: 2 Rollo, 3 Dean, 4 O'Brien, 5 Davis, 6 Swanes, 8 Ronaldo, 11 Jenner, 13 Shaka, 15 Akram, 16 Aces.

5 FOR FUN ANSWERS: 1 Ferenc Puskas, 2 Jimmy Young, 3 Chris Baird, 4 Ernie Els, 5 Canada.

## Djemba raps boss

ERIC Djemba-Djemba's Aston Villa future hangs in the balance after an astonishing blast at boss David O'Leary.

Djemba-Djemba, 24, says it's unbelievable he can't get in a team doing so badly and blames O'Leary's tactics for Villa's slide down the table.

The former Manchester United midfielder, who has played just four times as sub this season, is now certain to be shipped out of Villa Park in January if

### by DAVE ARMITAGE

a decent offer comes in. The Cameroon international, who cost £1.35m, rapped: "It's the manager. He needs to change the team sometimes."

### Tears

"When we lose every day, he needs to see what's not working and change the team." A run of three consecutive defeats has sent Villa slip to within a point

of the bottom three and Djemba-Djemba fears it could all end up in tears.

He said: "I'm very disappointed not to be playing because it is unbelievable. I came here from a big team and it's hard."

"If the manager doesn't try to do something then maybe we could be going to the First Division."

"I think it's the tactics. Every time, he just plays forwards, but we have to try and keep the ball and try to play."



DJEMBA-DJEMBA: Attack

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**SERIOUSLY  
football****Mourinho backs his Blues to shake off patchy****GERRO: WE  
WON'T TIRE****From Back Page**

moment. We have just beaten Argentina 3-2 with England and six months ago I won the European Cup, so I couldn't be happier.

"I am sure that I will go to the World Cup feeling fresh. There are obviously a lot of games to play this season before the World Cup but we all know that.

"Our manager has already said that, so I am looking forward to the World Cup after missing the last one - watching it from home was very frustrating."

**Feared**

Liverpool, who started the defence of the European Cup last June because they had to enter the first qualifying round, threatened not to enter the World Club Championship, which starts in Japan on December 11.

Rafa Benitez feared the impact on his players, who will have played 12 months of competitive football without a break by the end of the World Cup.

But last night the Kop boss said: "We use our players wisely in the squad,

resting them where we feel it is right. We are constantly monitoring them all and we know exactly how many minutes they have played."

Liverpool play twice in a week in the six-club tournament in the Far East before heading back to the Christmas rush in the Premiership.

Gerrard said: "There are two ways you can look at the tournament.

"You can either see it as a negative with it coming at a difficult time of the season, when you are tired, or look forward to it as a positive in that you can come back as winners with a confidence boost for the rest of the season."

Liverpool's chief executive Rick Parry will use the Tokyo trip to broaden his search for investment in the club in Asia.

Parry said: "Everybody knows we have been looking for investment for some time, but we are not looking for a quick fix.

"We want to make sure that we look long-term for the right investment that will take us to the next level."



**ALL FOR ONE:** Drogba (centre) says team-mates like Arjen Robben (left) and Joe Cole are all behind Mourinho

**Roman sends in the boys****From Back Page**

the Blues out of the competition at the first stage, with two group games left to play.

Abramovich's men visited the training ground last week following Chelsea's 1-0 defeat

at Manchester United which ended their unbeaten league run of 40 matches.

Incredibly, if Mourinho's men lose at home to Newcastle on Saturday and Wigan beat Arsenal, it would see Paul Jewell's side move within three

points of the Blues with a game in hand.

Abramovich proved with his treatment of Claudio Ranieri - sacked after taking Chelsea to second and the Champions League semi-finals - that he can be a hard taskmaster.

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# form and storm to second league crown

# WE'RE TWO GOOD FOR YOU, WENG

## Jose defiant over 'wobble'

**JOSE MOURINHO** insists his team are not throwing a wobbler and Chelsea will win the title "for the second year running".

Arsenal boss Arsene Wenger took a swipe at Mourinho's recent blip, which includes a defeat at Manchester United, and claimed the Premiership race was on again.

Boss Roman Abramovich even sent some of his men to the training ground last week to make sure everything was OK after a run of one win in five games.

But cocky Mourinho is as unshakeable as ever ahead of Saturday's clash with revitalised Newcastle.

**The Blues boss said:** "There's no shame in defeat against Manchester United. On the contrary, it shows we are the best because we were champions, because we are leaders, because we will be champions for the second year running."

"I am with my players, I am not afraid of the future."

"Our run of 40 Premiership games without defeat had to end and ended in the best way."

"It came against a great team in a game which was a credit to everyone who took part in it."

### Cries

"We were aware on the day that even some anti-Manchester United people were against us but we were calm and very well-prepared."

"It did not frighten us. It made us understand even better where our path had taken us."

"I'm not a coach who cries but I try to find solutions. I did so after the defeat against Real Betis in the Champions League and will do so again more easily now."

**"Working after a just and clear defeat is not the same as taking a group of players and guiding them after an unjust defeat - we were unlucky."**

Mourinho has only lost two of his 50 Premiership games and they were both in Manchester - against City last season and United earlier this month.

But he has still not been beaten in the league at Stamford Bridge and he is still immensely popular among his players.

Chelsea striker Didier Drogba claims his boss is a genius because he has

by **DAVID WOODS**

taught his Chelsea players how to "think" their way to victory.

The Ivory Coast star calls Mourinho "the greatest manager" and laughs at those who think he is simply a tactical bore.

Drogba, a £24m buy from Marseille in the summer of 2004, said: "The way we organise our play at Chelsea is simply down to the fact that Jose has taught us how to think."

"He is a brains coach. This is his greatest strength."

"He knows how to work with players' minds and he develops our intelligence."

### Stupid

"When we take to the field, we don't need to have tried out a particular tactic beforehand."

"We can reason things out and choose the correct approach all by ourselves."

"People have the stupid idea that Mourinho is obsessed with tactics and that this has made all the difference for Chelsea in the English game."

"But, let me tell you, since the start of the season, we have just had one session devoted to tactics."

"At Marseille, we would have 10 times as many and



**ONE DOWN, ONE TWO GO:** Jose Mourinho insists his Chelsea side are massive favourites to retain their title

I can't imagine how many more there would be at Italian clubs like Juventus or AC Milan."

**Since he arrived at Stamford Bridge from FC Porto in the summer of 2004, Mourinho has had major bust-ups.**

He has been upset with the FA and UEFA as well as Barcelona and has also managed to get involved in the long-running, bitter

feud with Arsenal boss Wenger, which took a new twist this week.

Drogba said: "For me, Mourinho is the greatest manager."

### Upstart

"He is a delightful guy who nobody can fathom out because they just go by his appearance."

"People call him an arrogant upstart and a wind-up

merchant simply because he says what he thinks."

"He arrived in England at the same time as I did, saying that he was here to win the Premiership."

"But he has won it. So what is arrogant about that?"

Drogba added: "You just need to take a look at the manager's CV."

"You can't argue with what he has achieved."



**ALDO JOB:** Duscher fancies Keane's spot

## Aldo is so Keane on Roy's role

**ARGENTINA** hardman Aldo Duscher last night claimed he could be Manchester United's new Roy Keane.

The Deportivo La Coruna midfielder is desperate for a move to the Premiership - and feels he is good enough to replace Keane.

United and Newcastle have both tabled £5m bids for the 26-year-old but Deportivo president Augusto Cesar Lendoiro wants £8m.

Sir Alex Ferguson has made Bayern Munich's Michael Ballack his top midfield target to replace Keane, who is out of contract in the summer and set to leave.

But Fergie fears it will take two players to replace his skipper and Duscher's lawyer Jorge Aidor is expected to visit Manchester this week for talks. Duscher said: "I am not concerned about playing in England."

"I am a person who loves taking risks and the Premiership would be a fantastic adventure for me. I am totally ready for the battle."

### Tough

"Roy Keane is almost unique. In fact, he plays like a tough Argentinian, which is why I feel we are so similar. If Manchester United choose me then I could do his job."

"I am a player who has no fear of the physical game. The Premiership will be perfect for my characteristics on the field."

"But the decision depends on Deportivo."

"I have my preference of which club I want to join but the president, Lendoiro, is clear on this subject. The club which pays more money is the favourite for the transfer."

"Manchester United and Newcastle are both great clubs and it is a very difficult decision."

"If, finally, Deportivo decide to sell I would not want to make a mistake."

Duscher is already

**EXCLUSIVE** by **DANNY FULLBROOK**

infamous at Old Trafford after breaking David Beckham's foot in a Champions League game before the 2002 World Cup.

He added: "I have forgotten what happened with Beckham in 2002. It was an unhappy moment but it is over and I do not think it will spoil my chances of going to Old Trafford or playing in England."

"Gabriel Heinze wants me to go to United and is speaking very well about me but also I know that Albert Luque is my ambassador with Graeme Souness and Newcastle."

### Lucky

"I am lucky that two such great clubs are fighting over me."

Ballack, 29, revealed yesterday that he will decide his future in January after stalling on Bayern's offer of a new four-year deal.

He said: "Foreign clubs can speak to me as of January. It would be a dream for me to play abroad but I can just as easily see myself staying at Bayern."



**CLOCKFORM** was the master tipster yesterday, top rating 100-1 winner Barton Park at Wincanton. He also gave 9-1 Texas Holdem. Tony Lewis, Star Tip and Starform all got their naps up. **Today's racing: Pages 50-53**

# Gerrard: I won't get burnt out

**STEVEN GERRARD** insists he won't suffer burn-out as he bids to conquer the world with club and country.

Liverpool skipper Gerrard will lead his club into the World Club Championships in Japan next month.

He says he's going there to win and does not expect the extra games to affect his performances for England in the World Cup in June.

Gerrard said: "We

■ by KEVIN FRANCIS

**have a responsibility to deliver results and we are going to Japan to make sure that we win and bring the trophy back to Anfield.**

"A lot of people talk of fatigue, but if you are winning football matches then it helps you a lot more than when you are losing, believe me.

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**WORLD TARGET:** Liverpool trio Rick Parry, Rafa Benitez and Steven Gerrard parade the World Club Championship trophy at Anfield yesterday  
Pic: JOHN DAWES

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# ROMAN SENDS THE BOYS IN



**WORRIED:**  
Roman Abramovich is looking for results

**ANXIOUS** Roman Abramovich sent a team of Russian agents to probe why Chelsea have been suffering their first wobble under Jose Mourinho.

His men descended on the training ground in Cobham, Surrey, to quiz back-room staff in the wake of two successive defeats for the champions. Mourinho was

**EXCLUSIVE** By **DAVID WOODS**

away on business as the Russians spoke with employees to find out if there were any simmering problems at the club.

Having spent more than £200m on new players – including over £55m this summer – Abramovich is determined to get rewards for his investment.

The billionaire was desperately disappointed to see Chelsea KO'd at the semi-final stage of the Champions League last season.

## Hope

And the defeat by Real Betis a fortnight ago has given the unfancied Spaniards hope of dumping

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